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ADVOCATE OF PEACE AND ARBITRATION.

BOSTON, FEBRUARY—MARCH, 1891.

R. B. HOWARD, EDITOR.

—The ADVOCATE has contained few appeals for money so far, but our work must now be helped or be curtailed. If any one who reads this has any love to the peace cause, he need not wait for the annual solicitation of membership fee or donation. Debt was the bane of the Society for years. We are determined it shall not be in future. We must have \$500 to finish our year, April 30th, free from debt. Who will aid us?

—One of the subjects of discussion at the coming Pan-Congregational Council in London, July next, is very properly "*Federation of English-speaking peoples for promoting International Arbitration and Universal Peace.*" President Angell of Michigan University, Ann Arbor, Michigan, and ex-Senator J. W. Patterson of New Hampshire, have been asked to prepare papers presenting the subject from the American point of view.

—A friend in Washington sent us *The Star*, with an interesting account of the annual meeting of the Bowdoin College (Maine) Alumni Jan. 27, presided over by Chief Justice Fuller (1852), and conducted by Senator William P. Frye (1851). We were glad to notice among those present several college companions and classmates; among them Hon. Sumner I. Kimball (1851), the Superintendent of the United States Life Saving Service. We regretted that absence from Boston prevented our attendance on a similar occasion in this city.

—The October (1821) Free Baptist Report of Weare, N. H., quarterly meeting contains the following minute:

"The subject of making use of distilled spirits at funerals was introduced, and it was earnestly recommended not to use any ardent spirits on funeral occasions, except when the person died of some contagious disease, and it became necessary to preserve health."

Customs have changed since 1821! It was then seriously argued by many persons that the receiving an offering of money at the communion would grieve the Holy Spirit.

—The House of Representatives at Washington has passed the bill introduced by Hon. E. A. Morse of Massachusetts, prohibiting the sale of tobacco in that city in any form to minors under sixteen years. It will speedily become a law as President Harrison favors and will sign it.

—If a burglar knocks me down, I cry for a policeman. He comes and arrests him. He is tried and condemned. Why not have a court like that for nations which commit trespasses upon their neighbors?

THE MONDAY LECTURESHIP.

Joseph Cook delivered the first prelude and lecture in the Boston Monday Lectureship, sixteenth year, season of 1891, in Tremont Temple at noon Monday, Feb 2. This was the 217th lecture. The course will consist of six lectures on Vital Questions in Church and State, with preludes on Leading Reforms. Mr. Cook will very likely deliver two "emergency" lectures in the less crowded portions of the year, at such times and places as may be decided upon by the Committee.

—If two ministers of State quarrel must the people who appointed them go to killing each other? Must the nation make the often silly quarrel of a vain, passionate or conscienceless minister who happens to be in power its own?

—"The lady whom I am bound to protect." Such was Afghanistan, when the question of boundary was referred to a friendly power and war averted.

—Lord Salisbury has recently refused arbitration with Venezuela and Portugal on boundary questions, but has proposed it to the United States on the seal question.

—The vote in the Methodist Episcopal church on the eligibility of women as delegates to the General Conference is now completed, and gives a majority of about 100,000 in favor of the change.

—Secretary Proctor is said to deny emphatically the newspaper reports of a controversy between the War and Interior Departments in regard to the management of the Indian campaign. The two departments were in perfect harmony in the matter.

—As regards the present Czar, Bismarck says: "He is a man of peace, and wishes no war, yet I doubt that he can avoid it. Most of the Russian army are in very bad quarters, and from time to time require a war for a change. A factor in precipitation of the last Russo-Turkish war was the growing discontent of the Russian army."

—Peace Sunday, Dec. 21, 1890, was observed in Birmingham, England, by the preaching of over one hundred "peace sermons."

—The W. C. T. U. suggest the first Sunday in June as Peace Sunday in America. Would it not be better to consult and agree upon the uniform observance of one day the world around?

—Will not all Christian churches in America unite in the proposed Church Conference on Peace and Arbitration. Undoubtedly, if those who shape their public opinion have conviction enough of its importance as compared with other enterprises in which they are engaged. The Peace Reform has been bowed out of the presence of these bodies with polite words long enough! But then, what will you do to prevent wars and abolish the bloody, barbarous and unchristian system?